



**Contact:**

**NANCY PETERS**

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST  
C-1251 GOVERNMENT CENTER  
300 SOUTH SIXTH STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55487

OFFICE: (612) 348-5022

FAX: (612) 348-2510

Nancy.Peters@courts.state.mn.us

*Media Advisory*

**MN Court of Appeals Judge Wilhemina M. Wright to be MLK Jr. Sunday Guest Preacher at Congregational Church of Excelsior**

***For immediate release***

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (January 5, 2006)—In celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, Hon. Wilhelmina M. Wright, Minnesota Court of Appeals, will be the guest preacher at the Congregational Church of Excelsior on Sunday, January 15, 2006.

Judge Wright was invited by the Reverend Jerry Fenske, to preach for the 10 a.m. Sunday service. The church is located at 471 Third Street in Excelsior. For more information, please contact the church at 952-474-5919.

Since September 2002, Judge Wright has served in the MN Court of Appeals after being appointed by then Governor Jesse Ventura. Previously she served as a trial judge on the Ramsey County District Court in St. Paul and prior to the bench, was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota.

Throughout her career, Judge Wright has remained active in the community with serving on boards for educational institutions and memberships in several legal associations; including the Board of Trustees of the William Mitchell College of Law, Board of Directors of the Federal Bar Association of Minnesota, St. Paul Public Schools Graduate Standards Advisory Committee, Association of Black Lawyers, Minnesota Women Lawyers Advisory Committee, National Association of Women Judges and several others. Judge Wright is also a member of the Minnesota Courts Public Trust and Confidence Working Groups.

Recognitions include the United States Department of Justice Special Achievement Award in 1997, United States Department of Justice Director's Award for Public Service in 2000; Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans Award in 2000 and B. Warren Hart Award for Public Service in 2001.

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Judge Wright received her juris doctorate from Harvard Law School and graduated with honors in Literature from Yale University.

**What:** MLK Jr. Sunday Guest Preacher at Congregational Church of Excelsior  
**Who:** Hon. Wilhelmina M. Wright, Minnesota Court of Appeals  
**When:** Sunday, January 15, 2006  
Service begins at 10 a.m.  
**Where:** Church Address: 471 Third Street, Excelsior, MN  
Phone: 952-474-5919.

#### **About the Fourth Judicial District**

The State of Minnesota's Fourth Judicial District serves only Hennepin County and is the state's largest trial court. For the nearly 750,000 cases annually received, its mission is to provide a system of Justice that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies

Sixty-one judges, 15 referees serve and more than 550 staff serve in these courts: Civil, Criminal / Traffic (including Domestic Violence, Drug and the Community Impact and Property Calendars), Juvenile, Probate / Mental Health, Family, Housing and Conciliation. Fourth Judicial District judges and staff strive to offer an accessible, fair, courteous, efficient and innovative system of Justice for its communities.

Fourth Judicial District facilities in downtown Minneapolis are located at the Hennepin County Government Center, Public Safety Facility, Juvenile Justice Center, Family Justice Center and City Hall. The suburban court facilities are located in Brooklyn Center (Brookdale / Division II), Minnetonka (Ridgedale / Division III) and Edina (Southdale / Division IV). For more information, please visit our website at [www.courts.state.mn.us/districts/fourth](http://www.courts.state.mn.us/districts/fourth).

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